

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 EB-08
OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 /125 W
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R 140938Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9020
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2830

PRETORIA ALSO FOR AMBASSADOR LOW

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV US UK RH
SUBJ: RHODESIA: ZAPU ON ECONOMIC ORDER IN RHODESIA
AFTER BLACK TAKEOVER

REF: LUSAKA 2828, AND LUSAKA 2829

1. EDWARD NDLOVU, ZAPU'S DEPUTY SECRETARY FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, TOLD THE CHARGE AND POLOFF THAT ZAPU HAD NO INTENTION OF MAKING RHODESIA A SOCIALIST STATE. ZAPU WOULD INSIST ON STATE PARTICIPATION IN MAJOR INDUSTRIES, THE MINES, FOR EXAMPLE, BUT WOULD NOT GO MUCH BEYOND THAT. SOCIALISM SIMPLY WOULD NOT WORK IN RHODESIA. FURTHER, ZAPU RECOGNIZES THAT AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE WILL HAVE TO LIVE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND SOUTH AFRICA COULD BE EXPECTED TO TRY TO UNDERMINE WHAT IT PERCEIVED AS A SYSTEM INIMICAL TO ITS OWN.
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FURTHER, ZIMBABWE WILL HAVE TO COMPETE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND IT CANNOT DO SO IF IT HAS TO GO THROUGH THE ECONOMIC TURMOIL WHICH WOULD BE CAUSED BY "SOCIALISM."

2. NDLOVU EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT ZAPU'S INTENTION TO AVOID SOCIALISTIC MEASURES MIGHT BE UNDERMINED BY ZAPU ECONOMISTS AND TECHNICIANS TRAINED IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. THE THINKING

AND APPROACH OF THOSE SO TRAINED IS DOMINATED BY MARXIST-LENINIST THEORY. IN HIS DEALINGS WITH THEM, NDLOVU HAS FOUND THEY CANNOT DO THE SIMPLIST ECONOMIC ANALYSIS WITHOUT WRAPPING IT IN THEORETICAL JARGON. ONCE THEY ARE GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY IN AN INDEPENDENT ZIMBABWE GOVERNMENT, THEY WILL BE HARD TO DIRECT ALONG A MORE PRAGMATIC ROAD. NDLOVU ASKED IF THE UNITED STATES COULD NOT DO MORE TO TURN OUT ECONOMISTS AND TECHICIANS SO AS TO AVOID ZAPU'S DEPENDENCE ON THOSE TRAINED IN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.

3. COMMENT: NDLOVU KNEW HIS AUDIENCE AND CLEARLY HAD AN INTEREST IN PROJECTING RESONABLENESS IN ZAPU'S APPROACH TO THE ECONOMIC FUTURE OF ZIMBABWE. HE HAS NOT ALWAYS BEEN SO REASONABLE ABOUT WHAT ZAPU WOULD DO TO THE ECONOMIC SYSTEM IN ZIMBABWE. HOWEVER, HIS COMMENTS WERE IN LINE WITH WHAT WE HAVE CONSIDERED TO BE ZAPU'S BASICALLY PRAGMATIC APPROACH TO ECONOMICS. END COMMENT. CLINGERMAN

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